

a comparison step of comparing said preparation time with said update time.

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable consideration and allowance of this application.

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application. Claims 1-13 have been elected for examination on the merits. Of the elected claims, Claims 1, 12, and 13 are independent.

Claims 1, 12, and 13 have been amended. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Klock", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Brian L. Klock
Registration No. 36,570

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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Technology Center 2600

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Attorney Docket No.: 03500.014025

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and

processing means for, when said detection means detects that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents,

wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents.

12. (Amended) A data processing method comprising:

detection step for detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of the digital contents; and

a processing step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents,

wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents.

13. (Amended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising:

a detection step of detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and

a processing step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents,

wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents.